

10-17-2007

The Daily Gamecock, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2007

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The Daily Gamecock

dailygamecock.com

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2007

VOL. 101, NO. 37 • SINCE 1908

Seven conductors try for director position

S.C. Philharmonic takes ques from 'Idol' in search for best fit

Julia Grasso
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

It's "American Idol," but with conductor's batons replacing the contestants' microphones.

For the next five months, the South Carolina Philharmonic is hosting a concert series to find the next music director for the group.

Performing with the musicians of the S.C. Philharmonic, each conductor has one night to demonstrate his talent in front of a live audience at the Koger Center.

Audience members and musicians are surveyed about the conductor and his performance after each concert.

"We are trying to look for a consensus," said Executive Director Rhonda Hunsinger.

The judging is conducted by a panel of S.C. Philharmonic board members, community members and executive directors.

The contestants include Steven Lipsitt, Morihiko

Nakahara, Carolyn Kuan, Sarah Hatsuko Hicks, David Commanday, Adam Flatt and Miriam Burns. The "Magnificent Seven" were chosen from 232 applications, and the concert series this year is the final stage of a three-year selection process.

Hunsinger said the "long and diligent process" sent search committees to go view the contestants live in concert, even traveling to London to decide on the final seven.

The orchestra practices four times with the next competing conductor.

Doug Graham, who is the principal clarinetist, says that the most stressful aspect is not the practice schedule; rather, it is the music selected by the conductors that presents the most challenges.

Each conductor submitted three programs that were reviewed and then compiled into a final balanced program by the S.C. Philharmonic's artistic advisor, Dr. Manny Alvarez.

Graham said the concerts "give [the conductors] the opportunity to conduct difficult pieces," and he admits that the music on the concert series program is "more challenging than

CONDUCTORS • 2

USC Police evacuate two buildings



Travis Frayard / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC police, fire trucks and a Hazmat team were called to investigate a suspected campus chemical spill Tuesday.

Two engineering buildings, Swearingen and 300 Main St., were evacuated around 6:30 yesterday evening after someone reported smelling smoke. Columbia and USC police, a fire truck and a Hazmat team responded to the call and immediately evacuated the building. The initial concern was that there had been a chemical spill inside of the building, but after thoroughly checking the building, officials declared that there was nothing to worry about and began to let students and faculty back into the buildings.

—Compiled by Travis Frayard, Staff Writer



Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC students, Cole Miller and Mike Mercuri, launched their menu Web site this semester.

Web site lays out dining options

Student-run directory posts over 100 menus from local eateries

Crissy Lavery
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sophomores Cole Miller, a second-year finance and real estate student and Mike Mercuri, a second-year advertising student, have come up with a solution for any student's needs or wants when it comes to food around Columbia.

CockyMenus.com is their new, fun and easy to use Web site that they launched at the beginning of the semester. With menus on the site from over 100 restaurants, CockyMenus.com is sure to have something everyone will love. The Web site is arranged in seven different categories: Delivery, Takeout, Dine-In, Catering, Order Online, Food Specials and Bar Specials. The Delivery, Takeout, Dine-In and Order Online icons only have open restaurants

showing while you are on the site. This way no getting your hopes up for a late night meal from a restaurant that is not even open.

"We are for the students, by the students," Miller said. "We are trying to do what fits the needs of college students."

Miller and Mercuri met in their fraternity and were two of the many students at USC that always wanted to know what restaurants were still open when they were having that late night

MENUS • 2

RHA learns about theft prevention

Officer Adams talks about campus crime, registering property

Charlotte Stephens
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Officer Adams from the USC Police Department spoke at last night's RHA meeting about theft on campus and ways to prevent it.

He said most theft occurs in the residence halls and the best way to prevent it is by registering and engraving personal property, especially

bicycles and laptops.

The USCPD will come to each dorm to engrave property. Bicycles and laptops can be registered online at www.les.sc.edu.

RHA also said the dining committee is working to improve dining at USC through the meal plans.

They will be meeting with the dining operation manager next Wednesday afternoon to discuss these problems and ways to improve them.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu



Caitlin Brown / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

RHA discusses improving campus dining and plans to meet with the operation manager.

Taylor Cothran Memorial Service

A memorial service will be held tonight at 7 p.m. for Taylor Cothran, a first-year student who died last week after falling from Capstone.

The service will be held in Rutledge Chapel, on the Horseshoe.

Tim Stewart of the Baptist Collegiate Ministry will lead the service and staff from the Counseling and Human Development Center will be available for students afterward.

Everyone in attendance will have the opportunity to speak, share or read if they so desire.

Meet the Candidates for South Carolina Philharmonic Music Director



Miriam Burns
Performs April 5

Quote: "I love conducting Tchaikovsky, most especially his later symphonies. The language of his writing in the Fourth Symphony reflects the turmoil going on in his life at the time; a true work of emotional autobiography."

Past Work Includes: Music director of the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra.



Sarah Hatsuko Hicks
Performs Jan. 19

Quote: The three works she will conduct "seem to be unrelated, but in truth they are all connected by the American experience, from three unique perspectives; each one of these composers, in their own way, was deeply affected by American music and life."

Past Work Includes: Former assistant conductor of the Richmond Symphony Orchestra.



David Commanday
Performs Feb. 9

Quote: "A great concert program offers everything: a strong theme, variety in color, texture and intensity, and a deeply satisfying emotional journey. This one is all about the dance."

Past Work Includes: Music director, Peoria Symphony. Former associate conductor of New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, music director of Boston Ballet.



Steven Lipsitt
Performed Sept. 22

Quote: "There are few experiences in musical life as thrilling as a live performance of Beethoven's orchestral music."

Past Work Includes: Orchestra conductor in Russia, Greece, Brazil, China, the Czech Republic and Canada. Guest conductor at Scottish Opera, the Kennedy Center Opera House and Boston Lyric Opera.



Morihiko Nakahara
Performed Oct. 13

Quote: "Ironically for someone who can't dance worth anything, one of my favorite themes for concert programming is dance."

Past Work: Associate conductor of the Spokane (Washington) Symphony Orchestra, director of orchestras at Eastern Washington University. Former music director for Holland (Michigan) Symphony Orchestra.

MENUS ● Continued from 1

craving for something good.

"We always ordered the same thing at Beezers, every time Beezers," said Miller. "We just needed to know what else was open late at night and what they had on the menu."

Not only can students enjoy a variety of choices for late night meals but can also know the drink specials at all the bars in Five Points and the Vista, food specials at each restaurant and conveniently order online.

"I love knowing the drink and food specials; this Web site has everything I could ever want," said Grayson

Hancock, a third-year history and education student. "I have used it and will continue using it. I think USC students needed something just like it."

Mercuri and Miller are now working to get the word out about there Web site.

"What we want is when someone goes to order food, they go straight to CockyMenus," said Mercuri.

Miller and Mercuri want to reassure students that ordering online is very safe and actually more convenient.

"If you want certain toppings on something it's easier online because the

person taking your order may not ask all the right questions over the phone," Miller stated.

Making an account to order online barely takes two minutes and all your information will be saved for other times you want to order.

There will be 30 menus added from Harbison restaurants for a larger variety and to prepare for the upcoming Parents Weekend. They want to make sure students and their parents know all the choices that are around Columbia.

"I'll be using CockyMenus when my parents come, it'll be the most convenient way

to see where we want to eat," said David Hughes a third-year business student.

Also coming soon is what Miller and Mercuri call "Customer Loyalty Cash." Every time a person orders online he or she will receive 5 percent back. "It eventually becomes a free meal," stated Miller.

Miller and Mercuri also have a group on Facebook, appropriately called CockyMenus.com, where they give away a free meal each month. All students are encouraged to join the group and try out CockyMenus.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

CONDUCTORS ● Continued from 1

[the orchestra] would normally have."

So far two conductors, Steven Lipsitt and Morihiko Nakahara, have been showcased. The next performance will be conducted by Carolyn Kuan on Nov. 10.

The last concert in the series will be in April 2008.

The S.C. Philharmonic, founded 44 years ago, is an orchestra that consists of expert musicians from around the state.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu



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WHEN: 11:00 A.M. till 2:00 P.M.
WHERE: In front of Russell House on Greene St.

WHAT: MACDOUGALL'S PERCENTAGE NIGHT...

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WHEN: 6:00 P.M. till 9:00 P.M.
WHERE: 902 F Gervais St., in the Vista, 803-779-6400

WED. 10/18

WHAT: MIRACLE DAY!...find out what USC Dance Marathon and Children's Miracle Network are about.
WHEN: 11:00 A.M. till 2:00 P.M.
WHERE: In front of Russell House on Greene St.

For more information,
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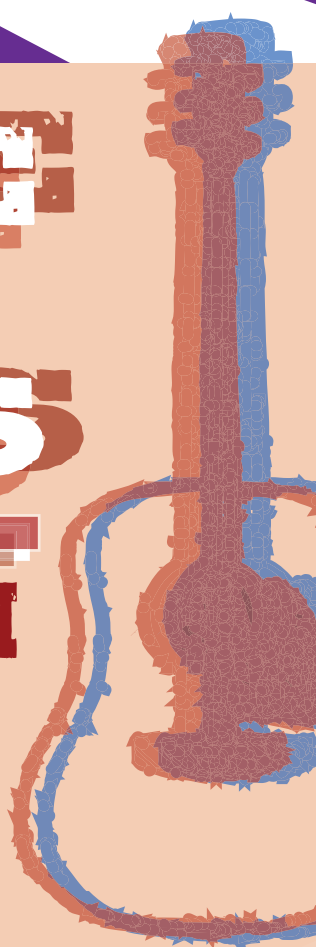
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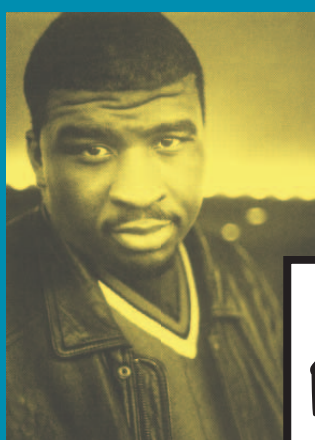


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IN OUR OPINION

Pursuing crazy ideas could lead to success

You don't have to be 46 years old with an MBA to start your own business. College students across America are turning hobbies into lucrative enterprises, doing everything from dog walking to political consulting. Mark Zuckerberg was still in college when he founded Facebook, the social networking site that made him a multimillionaire. Future NBA player Greg Anthony started a small t-shirt business while an undergrad at UNLV and made so much money that he gave up his scholarship.

Being a student doesn't mean you can't be a successful businessperson.

Being a full-time student doesn't mean you can't be a successful businessperson on the side.

If you don't think you can do it alone, USC offers a special program to aid aspiring small business owners.

For the more ambitious young entrepreneurs, USC has a program called the Student Business Incubator Center that might help you out. The SBIC helps select applicants start and grow their own businesses, giving them office space, computer and phone access and up to \$1,000 in start-up capital. For more information, visit the SBIC Web site at <http://www.sg.sc.edu/incubator.htm>.

So whether it's starting the next great Internet craze, inventing a robot or just mowing lawns, your new business could be more than just a passing idea that you dismiss while you work on more important things — it could be something genuinely worth your time.

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

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The Daily Gamecock is the editorially independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published daily during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Daily Gamecock are those of the editors or author and not those of the University of South Carolina. The Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher of The Daily Gamecock. The Department of Student Media is the newspaper's parent organization. The Daily Gamecock is supported in part by student-activity fees. One free copy per reader. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each from the Department of Student Media.



OFF THE WAL-DON

Students sell game tickets on Internet

Facebook exchange leads to high prices for devoted Gamecock football fans

Remember that time when you used to give your extra ticket to a USC football game to the random, sad, lonely fellow student who missed ticket distribution because he was feeding the homeless, giving blood and doing other acts of kindness for the less fortunate?

Well, no longer will you have to do that, my friends. Now you can make that overachiever pay on Facebook with USC's student version of StubHub.com: the USC Ticket Exchange.

In this group, students with tickets to USC games will post if they have extra tickets, which they then sell via message for whatever price a buyer is willing to pay. I wouldn't go as far as to say this was a black market, but I hear a kidney may get you a Clemson ticket in the near future.

With over 1,100 members, this group is no well-kept secret, nor should it be. It's a great way for students with extra tickets to leech money off of



STEPHEN WALDON
Fifth-year electronic journalism student

students who actually plan to attend a game. After all, if you didn't sell these "free" tickets online, then how could anyone stand to profit? It's not enough to simply give the tickets to a classmate so the football team benefits from the extra student participation. We're ranked sixth as it is, so they probably don't even need the extra support.

Instead, we should all flood the lines for the Florida game with as many student ID's as we can; could the sweet ladies at ticket distribution really remember our faces as we go through the lines with our friends' IDs? Probably not, and in doing so we can sell all those tickets online to students who just want a chance to cheer on our team during this historic season. Sounds like easy money to squeeze out of those USC students who expected to get a free ticket just like the ones we got.

Too bad the group says you can't post ticket prices on the group's wall. I wonder what people would readily admit they were charging for these free tickets? Hopefully a lot if they were smart.

And if you take a look at the Facebook group, you'll see my name proudly on the roster. See, I'm a journalism student, slaying away like many seniors and grad students with full weeks that don't allow for long waits in distribution lines. It's not anyone's fault but my own that I have this major, but I'm often without a ticket in my last semester at school.

Luckily, this incredible group will afford me the opportunity to buy a Florida ticket for around 50 bucks or more, depending on market availability and inflation. Still, I'll get to see my beloved Gamecocks play thanks to the fine fellow student merchants ripping off their student body for just a little more drinking money on a Tuesday night.

Jaded? Hardly. It's just a joy to see such school camaraderie from one student to another.

Reactions show changes in attitudes

Basic privileges should be given to all regardless of gender, sexual orientation

I figured I would get some negative feedback from my last column, but even I was impressed.

Allow me to explain. Just to get it out there, I am not a misogynist, nor do I believe women should not be allowed to vote any more than I believe the moon is made of cheese.

Rather, I was trying to construct an argument to exemplify the utter ridiculousness of suggesting that someone should have to fight the way they are to secure equal rights as everyone else, particularly when doing so poses no threat to anyone.

It was not a coincidence that the column coincided with National Coming Out Day. In a week featuring such an event, two front page stories in The Daily Gamecock and an editorial (not including mine), I felt it was an important time to bring up the issue that many Americans are essentially denied a basic privilege the rest of us enjoy based purely on sexual orientation. I say privilege, because it is clearly not a right. At least, not the way it's treated now.

While the reactions of



JOSHUA RABON
Third-year finance student

many were somewhat misguided in their scope, I appreciate the sort of attitudes people need to take against bigotry. Which makes me wonder why more people don't stand up for gay marriage. We can all agree — taken literally, that column was utterly ludicrous.

So why can you replace the word "women" with "gay man/woman" and "vote" with "get married" and suddenly many of those arguments are tolerable? Clearly such a blunt substitution is not precise, but you get the picture.

For example, many criticized my use of the Bible to justify my admittedly odd non-opinion, citing many other issues, such as slavery, which we would obviously not want to revert to although it may not be against anything in the Bible.

However, I want to make it clear this is not a religious argument whatsoever. That's a whole other ball of

wax. I just can't understand how the Bible is an accepted basis for political opposition on one front, but not all fronts. It doesn't seem like something you can just take or leave as you see fit.

This isn't the only example — the basic issue is that I don't understand why anyone can so vehemently oppose the union of two people when it won't affect them at all. Even if you oppose homosexuality on principle, it's not as though allowing gay marriage is "encouraging" it. It's not like someone will wake up the day it's legalized and say, "You know what, maybe I'll try being gay for a while." I promise a gay couple won't be any gayer if they get married.

Like many other such issues before this, opposition will exist. But just as a pro-racist argument that would have been acceptable 50 years ago is fought with vigor today, and as an argument opposing women's right to vote was once OK, I genuinely believe that someday the argument against gay marriage will be seen as preposterous.

It may be 50 years, it may be 100 years. I don't know — by writing, I'm just trying to do my part.

'Kid Nation' fails to live up to high expectations

Despite slow start, future episodes of new reality show hold some promise

Anyone who knows me knows that I love ridiculous



ALEX CARROLL
Second-year sports and entertainment management student

reality television shows, especially those that exploit helpless children in questionably unethical ways. So it is no surprise that I have started watching CBS's reality series "Kid

Nation."

For those not in the know, "Kid Nation" is composed of 40 kids, ranging in age from eight to 15, who must survive for 40 days in Bonanza City, an abandoned New Mexico pioneer town.

Despite the show's early promise, I started growing suspicious of several things. For one, I was pretty sure that a couple of the kids had fake British accents. At first, I assumed that the kids hailed from around the globe, but when kids' names and locations flashed on the screen I wondered, "Is there a place in England called Kentucky?" Strike one.

Also, I was extremely disappointed in the fact that there was a host of the show who maintained order in Bonanza City. When I first heard about the show, I assumed (actually, prayed) that there would be no adults and that chaos would ensue, a la "Lord of the Flies." And if someone had to be killed, then so be it. Nobody ever said being a pioneer was easy.

But I guess people with "morals" and "compassion for children" thought otherwise. That is why each week the four teams are subject to reward challenges (think: every other reality TV show you've ever seen). Then, depending on how they finish, they are awarded a town status, such as laborer, cook or upper class. While it is pretty entertaining, I had to give it strike two.

So while the first couple episodes left me wanting more, a recent episode provided a ray of hope. A couple weeks ago, the kids enjoyed an evening reminiscent of a Friday night in Five Points, as they chugged root beer in the town's saloon until the early hours of the morning before passing out on the floor. It appears that our little pioneers are slowly turning into sodaholics.

Strike three? Not so fast. It appears that things are looking up in Bonanza City. Last week's episode featured 9-year-old Cody who, according to the episode synopsis, "[drowned] his sorrows in root beer and cows" after missing his girlfriend. Fortunately, due to the show's family-friendly rating, drowning one's sorrows in "root beer and cows" did not mean what I thought it did.

Likewise, the previews for next week's episode show even more greatness to come when fights break out as the town council members run for re-election. And you thought the Florida fiasco in 2000 was bad.

Boredom
busters help
class go fast

Mark Killian
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

When Sudoku, crossword
won't cut it try these fun,
creative ways to pass time

You will get your limbs out of bed and arrive to class five minutes after the teacher started his/her lecture. You sit down, take out your notebook and a pencil and come to a startling conclusion, "I cannot concentrate right now!" Before you know it, you have finished the Sudoku, written down all of the answers you know to the crossword puzzle (which incidentally causes you to question your intelligence) and taken a mental inventory of your classroom crushes. And you've only been in class for 30 minutes.

What are you going to do for the next 45 minutes other than pray to every god in Greek mythology that the professor ends class early? After three and a quarter years of this same dilemma, I have come up with a few undetectable games you can play to make time move faster than Hiro Nakamura.

The first game may not teach you the difference between municipal and corporate bonds, but it will test your imagination more than that cardboard box you played with as a child.

The set up is simple. All you do is stare at your professor as if you are deeply engaged in every word coming out of his/her mouth. Meanwhile, try to imagine how they spent their weekend. You can play conservative and come up with a practical scenario derived from the personal information the professor has given you, or you can convince yourself that he/she looks slightly disheveled because he/she just flew back from Vegas in a suitcase because he/she lost all of their money on blackjack and prostitutes. Let your imagination run wild and class will be over before you know it.

The next option is a study in human behavior. Similar to the failed MTV show "Boiling Points," the people sitting in your perimeter unknowingly become the contestants. The only difference is, they do not receive a cash prize for putting up with your intentional annoyances.

All you have to do is come up with some subtle tick just obnoxious enough for your neighbor to realize something is amiss. Try occasionally tapping the chair in front of you with your foot until the occupant turns to investigate, or begin making a faint dial tone sound and gradually increase the intensity until you see eyes searching for the source of the noise.

The key to this game is subtlety. If your classmate knows you are irritating him on purpose, you have not only lost the game, but your classmate's respect too.

Lastly, there is a little game that can be played which combines strategic thinking, occasional bursts of excitement and the thrill of victory. This one takes at least two players. At the beginning of class you and your opponent(s) each pick a word you feel the professor might say throughout the class. It can be a professors particular catch phrase, a prevalent noun you came across during the reading for that day, or a random word

Local bands take Five Points by storm

American Gun, Loch Ness
Johnny set to play Thursday

Eli Petersen
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

American Gun and Loch Ness Johnny are two of Columbia's finest roots-based rock bands, and they will both be taking the stage for the weekly concert series in 5 Points after 5 p.m. this Thursday.

American Gun is the newer and more serious of the two bands. Their critically acclaimed debut album "Dark Southern Hearts" takes country, folk, blues and rock 'n' roll, grinds it up and spits it back out with the defiance of the original punk rockers of the 1970s.

The band might describe themselves as progressive southern rock in the style of Wilco or Lucero, but genre titles alone can not accurately capture the range of the band's sound. The full-on punk rock tilt of songs like "Picture", "American Gun" and "Tears" are tempered by ballads like "Little Sister" and "Saint of Alcohol," the former a beautifully layered song that displays the bands pop sensibilities and the latter a heartfelt Americana tinged song worthy of alt-country luminaries like Jay Farrar or Ryan Adams. Fronted by songwriters Todd Mathis, formerly of Boxing Day, and Loch Ness Johnny frontman Donald Merckle, American Gun has formidable songwriting chops. The rest of the band is made up of Columbia music scene stalwarts, with Kevin Kimbrell (bass) and Andrew Hoose (drums) in the rhythm section and Jeff Crews providing slash and burn guitar leads. Live, the band is a tumbleweed of sound with Merckle's acoustic guitar front and center anchoring the



Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

American Gun is a local band that combines alt-country and punk rock for a sound that is truly original.

bands sound. They gleefully attack their repertoire with both precision and unbridled energy, sending each song over the top of their studio recordings.

In addition to favorites from their debut, the band also desecrates (in a good way) well-chosen covers like Wilco's "Kingpin," Gillian Welch's "Elvis Presley Blues," June Carter Cash's "Ring of Fire" and the traditional "Wayfaring Stranger."

Other highlights from their live sets include new songs from their forthcoming follow-up to their debut, "The Means and the Machine,"

which is slated for an early '08 release. If songs like "Drunk Girl" and "Fast One" are any sign, the new album might just be the one that brings American Gun the national attention they so richly deserve. So whether you're an alt-country fan, a punk rocker or you're just heading to 5 Points to have a good time, check out American Gun. Following American Gun will be local favorite Loch Ness Johnny; with American Gun members Donald Merckle (acoustic guitar, vocals) and Andrew Hoose (drums), Kevin Pettit on bass, Chris Lawther

on banjo and fiddle player Phil Hurd.

Loch Ness Johnny is an experience not to be missed. They play a potent mixture of celtic, Appalachian, bluegrass, punk and Americana-flavored rock at a break neck pace. Hurd's fiddle playing in particular stands out as the band races to off to oblivion in each song. Fans of Flogging Molly, the Pogues and the Dropkick Murphy's would do well to check Loch Ness Johnny out.

Comments on this story? E-mail
gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

USC to host
author series

Fetured guests this year are James Barilla,
Bobbie Ann Manson, Galway Kinnell

Edward Pharr
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The temperature may not have cooled down much, but fall is here, and with it comes USC's Fall Festival of Authors. The guests of honor at this year's festival are Bobbie Ann Mason, Galway Kinnell and James Barilla. The format of the festival will be readings from the authors followed by a question and answer session and book signing. The festival offers an exciting opportunity for fans, aspiring authors and even the mildly curious.

On Thursday, Mason will be presenting. She grew up in Mayfield, Kentucky on her parent's dairy farm, and most, if not all of her work reflects Kentucky life and the essence of down-to-Earth Kentucky folk.

Her first work of fiction, "Shiloh and Other Stories," won the PEN Hemingway Award, and the story "Shiloh" is widely used in English classes.

Her work has appeared in "The New Yorker," "Esquire" and "Atlantic Monthly." Some of her other important writings include "In Country," a coming of age story and her memoir, "Clear Springs." She is currently the writer-in-residence at the University of Kentucky.

Tuesday, Oct. 23 will be the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Kinnell's evening at the festival. He has been in a prominent position in the poetry community for

the last 30 years, and he has released nine books of poetry. A lot of his poetry focuses on social issues, but he has written on a wide variety of topics. He once remarked that "nobody would write poetry if the world was perfect."

Some of his most notable titles are "The Book of Nightmares," "When One Has Lived a Long Time Alone," "Imperfect Thirst" and "Selected Poems," for which he won both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award.

James Barilla will be presenting on Tuesday, Oct. 30. He recently joined the English Department here at the University of South Carolina teaching classes in nonfiction writing and environmental literature. His work deals with the ethical and emotional issues involved with technology and ecology. His first book of nonfiction, "West With the Rise: Fly-fishing Across America," was published by University of Virginia Press in 2006.

On Tuesday, Nov. 6 at 6 p.m., there is to be a MFA Bistro Reading at Hush, 1001 Gervais St. in the Vista.

Hearing authors read their own work is rewarding in a way unlike anything else, and is a good experience to have had. The emotion in their voices mirrors the emotion of the passage in a uniquely expressive way.

If you have some free time between now and the

festival dates, head over to the library or bookstore and check out something by the festival's authors. Having read some of their work, even if it's just a few short stories or poems, will help you come up with some good questions to ask them and get more out of their talk.

The meetings will be held in the Law Center, which is located on Main and Greene Streets in the Law School Auditorium. Admission is free and open to the general public.

All of the readings and question and answer sessions are to take place at 6 p.m., and they will be followed by book signings at 7 p.m. Books will be on sale at the events.

The festival is being sponsored by the Thomas Cooper Library and the Department of English.

Comments on this story? E-mail
gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

if you
go

October, 18 -
Bobbie Ann Mason

October, 23 -
Galway Kinnell

October, 30 -
James Barilla

'TMZ' digs crawlspace
under TV's all time low

Neal Justin
MCT Campus

New syndicated series
crosses line from celeb
reporting to stalking

After watching a week of the new syndicated series, "TMZ," I know exactly how Bill Murray felt in "Ghostbusters": slimed. That's the only appropriate response, since everyone involved in this demeaning "news" show, from the producers to the local affiliates that have picked it up, must have slime for blood.

It's not that I'm a prude about gossip. I care as much about Paris Hilton's party plans as the next gawker. I also believe that celebrities must give up a certain amount of privacy. You make \$15 million for playing a superhero on the big screen, you've got to pose for pictures when you venture out to Starbucks. But "TMZ" takes that unwritten L.A. law and drags it down to a new level of hell.

See Britney Spears order from Taco Bell. See a kid melt down at the sight of Brangelina. See your priest for a soul-cleansing session in the morning.

Each episode opens with the "correspondents" gathering each morning for a cackle session run by Harvey Levin, the sleazeball host who's constantly sipping some mysterious drink. Probably squirrel blood. He almost always wears tight-fitting shirts, maybe to show that he's got a beating heart underneath.

It's not just the fact that Levin and his ghouls

want to tear down every celebrity's playhouse. They want to bulldoze it, put it through the wood chipper and feed the remains to their children.

Woe to any entertainer who doesn't appreciate this approach. Brad Garrett, who once shoved the camera of a "TMZ" stalker, gets the detailed kind of coverage usually reserved for heads of state along with snarky commentary that's got less imagination than any episode of "Til Death."

Playing nice doesn't get you a pass.

The show recently tore in Rihanna for leaving "The Late Show With David Letterman" theatre without stopping to sign autographs ("Maybe she doesn't know how to spell her name"), while seconds later ridiculing a "Desperate Housewives" star for lingering too long with fans.

The show saves the most crass for last, a nightly installment in which it celebrates the birthdays of any two given starlets—Kate Winslet and Nikki Hilton, for example—by asking viewers, "Who'd You Rather?" "TMZ" does have moments that didn't want to make me put a gun to the screen—or my head. Spears' nightly outings to four-star hotels merits tracking and video of Dan Rather spending 20 minutes debating whether his coat collar should be up or down before anchoring a story reveals loads about the ego-driven world of broadcast news.

Hey, I didn't get any in high school, either, but I got over it. So should you.

GAMES • Continued from 5

you just happen to favor. Once the professor begins talking, keep track of how many times he/she says your word. At the end of the class everyone tallies up, and the person with the most popular word of the day emerges victorious. The nice thing about this game is that it demands your attention. You will probably be surprised to find you actually learned something relevant during the lecture.

Whichever you choose, it is important to realize why you are sitting in that classroom in the first place. Like a choking hazard disclaimer on a board game, this is a fair warning that only you will be responsible for any sudden drops in your GPA. These games are intended for the use of those students responsible enough to read whatever it is they missed during their games. Now, get to class and give one of these time consumers a try.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

Indie band Of Montreal switches gears

Although officially touring behind its last album, band has begun playing new tunes

Len Righi
MCT Campus

Guitarist-vocalist Bryan Poole has worked closely with Of Montreal frontman Kevin Barnes for more than a decade. But it wasn't until last year that he felt he had a real clue why Barnes would often compose and complete songs and albums with almost no input from other members of the band.

"I found out sitting next to him on an airplane that he never had real friends until he was 10 or 11 years old, people he could watch cartoons with or roughhouse with," says Poole just hours before Of Montreal is to play at Oberlin College in Ohio.

"He had to create his own playland. He had to make up characters to keep himself

entertained. He was able to explore his mind. To me, that's a really great insight, and he just offered it up."

Poole, who also has been part of pop experimenters Elf Power and The Olivia Tremor Control, admits that Athens, Ga.-based Of Montreal has had its "ups and downs and periods of drifting," partly because of the way Barnes works. "But Kevin is kind of like Prince," says Poole. "He can play and do everything himself, and he never has writers block."

So although Of Montreal is still officially touring behind its fascinating late January release, "Hissing Fauna, Are You the Destroyer?," a dizzying account of a crumbling psyche that Barnes recorded virtually by himself while living in



Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Of Montreal frontman Kevin Barnes is known for composing songs single-handedly.

Norway and Athens, Ga., the band already is shifting gears. Barnes, Poole, drummer-

keyboardist-trumpeter James Huggins, keyboardist Dottie Alexander and bassist Davey Pierce are already

playing several new tunes that will be part of the band's next CD.

New 'Zelda' offers same lure, different experience

'Phantom Hourglass' will appeal to casual, hardcore gamers alike

"The Legend of Zelda: Phantom Hourglass" ★★★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

Thomas Maluck
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Each iteration of the "Zelda" franchise represents some twist or upgrade in play and style, and "Phantom Hourglass" for the Nintendo DS is no exception. The DS's features are all utilized for an exceedingly fun,

addictive time.

The story focuses on series hero Link's adventure to save pirate leader Tetra after she leaps on a ghost ship and disappears. Along the way, he meets a Capt. Linebeck who agrees to help if the price is right. The rest is gathering the number of MacGuffins (spirits, metals) needed to rescue Zelda and dispel evil, but the meat of the game is how it's played.

"Phantom Hourglass" is controlled with the stylus only, with the optional control pad to pull down menus and the L and R shoulder buttons optional

to use inventory items. It is possible and often required to take notes on maps for use in riddles. Movement is a matter of holding down the stylus in the direction you want Link to go, while combat with sword and shield depends on small taps and swipes. Occasionally, blowing or yelling into the DS's mic is required. Control can be awkward for the first few minutes, but soon it will become second nature and feel instinctual well into the 15-20 hours of adventuring to be found.

The world of "Phantom Hourglass" is a wide

ocean dotted with islands (each inhabited by unique dwellers), with different enemies, obstacles, merchants and friendlies sailing about. Navigation is as simple as drawing a route on your map, and high-seas encounters are resolved with a cannon. Fishing and salvaging the sea floor for treasure are their own mini-game diversions.

Psychology majors, you may want to use this game as a study of reward structures. It is markedly easier than previous "Zeldas," but is open-ended and entertaining enough to hold any gamer's

attention. There's always rupees to spend, a life gauge to replenish/enlarge, a ship to customize, a new item to discover or an island to explore. The game supplies plenty of interaction with a puzzle (breezy in the beginning, tricky by the end) to solve, enemy to defeat, route to follow or dungeon to overturn. Different dungeons yield bosses that are each defeated in a different way.

For example, Link may run around on the bottom screen while you also watch the boss' perspective on the top screen and have to

figure out where to hit him from while making sure it's not chasing from behind.

The multiplayer mode is a tense one-on-one mix of capture-the-flag and maze navigation, as one player tries to secure gems as Link and the other controls guard statues' movements as paths drawn on the map.

The next step in Link's journeys is more of an evolution than what happened on the Wii, and should appeal to casual as well as hardcore gamers.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

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PIC OF THE DAY



Allison Smith / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Cocky helps the Garnet and Black Staff hand out their first edition of the semester to students this Tuesday in front of the Russell House.

Inside the Box ♦ By Marlowe Leveritte / The Daily Gamecock

YAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA-

10-17-2007
BUNNYANDRAVY.COM

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH

Whiteboard ♦ By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock

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Sudoku

By The Mephram Group

10/17/07

		1		7		6		
8								5
		7						9
4			7		2			1
				3				
3			9		6			2
1						3		
5		2						8
		4		5		9		

Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 10/16/07

9	7	8	2	6	4	1	5	3
5	3	6	9	7	1	2	8	4
4	2	1	3	8	5	9	7	6
8	6	4	7	3	9	5	1	2
3	1	2	6	5	8	4	9	7
7	5	9	4	1	2	3	6	8
1	8	3	5	2	6	7	4	9
2	4	5	8	9	7	6	3	1
6	9	7	1	4	3	8	2	5

the scene at USC

Dan in Real Life



DAN IN REAL LIFE
9 p.m.
Russell House Theater

TSOTSI
6 p.m.
Russell House Theater

SHAKE THE DEVIL OFF
12 p.m., 1:30 p.m. \$5
The Nickelodeon Theater, 937 Main St.

A MAN NAMED PEARL
3 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m. \$5
The Nickelodeon Theater, 937 Main St.

MR. B'S GOODTIME KARAOKE EXPLOSION
9 p.m.
Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

NAME ON RICE JEWELRY FOR WACKY WEDNESDAY
11 a.m.
Green St. outside Russell House

Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

10/17/07

Brought to you by:

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11.9.07

ACROSS

- 1 Violent explosion
- 6 Shapely fruit
- 10 Dean Martin's detective Matt
- 14 Speed checker
- 15 Austen novel
- 16 Nobelist Wiesel
- 17 Muscat resident
- 18 Niagara noises
- 19 Cacophonies
- 20 Tough task for a chef
- 23 Tree house?
- 26 Manipulates
- 27 Fidgety
- 28 Primitive conveyance
- 30 Greek letter
- 31 Spanish river
- 32 Former French colony in Canada
- 36 Yemen's capital
- 40 Tough task for a taxidermist
- 43 Como __ Usted?
- 44 Upolu resident
- 45 Japanese novelist Kobo
- 46 Director's shout
- 48 Large craft
- 50 Babysitter's nemeses
- 53 Berne's river
- 56 Morays
- 57 Tough task for a gourmet
- 60 Coup d'__
- 61 Attack with a shiv
- 62 Of service
- 66 Neighbor of Brazil
- 67 Foal's father
- 68 Potvin or Leary
- 69 Actor Pickens
- 70 Mining products

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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43						44						45		
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50	51	52					53	54	55			56		
57							58				59			
60													63	64
66							67				68			
69							70				71			

Solutions from 10/16/07

A	L	K	A	H	A	R	E	M	E	G	O	S
C	E	O	S	A	R	U	B	A	V	A	N	S
M	A	R	C	R	I	L	E	Y	O	I	L	S
E	N	E	R	G	I	Z	E	R	B	U	N	N
S	T	A	I	R	T	E	R	N	S			
		B	R	A	S	S			G	E	T	I
N	E	V	E	R	S	A	Y	D	I	E		I
E	N	I	D		T	I	N	A	S		T	M
A	N	C		H	A	N	G	I	N	T	H	E
P	E	T	T	Y		E	S	T	E	R		
		R	O	M	P	S			L	O	A	M
G	O	O	N	A	N	D	O	N	A	N	D	O
C	O	L	T		C	A	I	R	O		G	I
C	O	A	L		E	R	R	E	D		E	E
I	P	S	E		R	E	E	S	E		D	U

- 34 Beavers' barrier
- 35 Worldwide worker's grp.
- 37 Humiliate
- 38 Dynamite inventor
- 39 Jumps on the ice
- 41 Do-all assistant
- 42 Noon follower
- 47 Mil. branch
- 49 Stanza of six lines
- 50 Pages
- 51 Honey badger
- 52 Arcade pioneer
- 53 Up and about
- 54 Cognizant
- 55 Judicial garb
- 58 Exxon, once
- 59 Clothing, casually
- 63 Daughter of Cadmus
- 64 Actress Ullmann
- 65 Compass dir.

Upsets, big losses make predictions tough to call

Early season shockers make college football pundits look like idiots

Mark it down: I, Chris Cox, have officially retired from predicting college football games.

It wasn't always like this. I used to take great pride in my predictions, delivering precise scores and winners week by week. Friends and family would come to me for my expert opinions on who would win the weekend's games.



CHRIS COX
Second-year print journalism major

But now I'm a washed up has-been.

Now I sit back, crying in my bowl of rocky road ice cream as my predictions flop week after week.

I thought I was getting back on track this weekend. As I sat in my seat in Chapel Hill, I repeatedly checked scores across the country. The smile slowly crept back onto my face as Tennessee, Boston College, Kansas and Georgia Tech all emerged victorious.

Would this be the weekend I turned my fortunes around?

The answer to that was a resounding "no." Much to my chagrin, the day was hardly over as LSU, California, Cincinnati and Illinois would eventually fall.

I had hit rock bottom. My confidence and credibility shattered.

The entire ride home was a blur. My mind raced as to how I was going to support and defend my predictions. The only excuse I could come up with was that California's quarterback was a moron for falling on the twelve yard line with less than ten seconds to play and no timeouts despite being down by only three. Other than that I was blank.

My friend, John, tried his best to console me.

"The whole college football season has been like this," he explained. "It's been crazy upsets week after week."

But that doesn't matter to me. The bottom line is that I have come up short week in and week out in my predictions.

The upsets had to end soon, right? After Michigan and Oklahoma fell earlier this season, the country thought the roller coaster was over.

Then Kentucky and Oregon State decided to shake things up. It was the first time since 1996 that the #1 and #2 ranked teams fell on the same day as both teams beat LSU and Cal, respectively.

I obviously realize that I'm not the only one struggling with my predictions, as I think the entire population of odds makers in Vegas have already begun cleaning out their desks and filling out their resignation papers.

Seriously, what is going on in the sports world? The odds of me putting the choke slam on Andre the Giant were greater than having a decent weekend predicting football scores.

On ESPN's "Around the Horn" Monday, Woody Paige predicted that South

Driving his way to success

Sophomore golfer sets high goals in 2007, impresses coach with attitude

Michael Finnegan
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sophomore George Bryan IV had one of the most successful individual and team seasons last year as a freshman. Now in 2007, his goals are even higher.

"I just want to keep improving my golf game. I want to win. I want to win every award there is this year. I also want to do it with the team. I want to win the National Championship this year and I think we are good enough by winning (region) last year." Bryan said.

The sophomore from Chapin finished his freshman campaign on a high note as he paced the Gamecocks at the West Regional where they captured their first ever Regional title. Bryan finished 10th and on the way, shot the fourth lowest three round score in school history.

These achievements led him to being named Ping All-Southeast region and honorable mention All-American. However, Bryan knows that he has still to work to improve and he can't become complacent.

"I just have to keep working hard. I played last year but I did not win a tournament. If I keep working hard, I will continue to get better. Just because I was an All-American last year, doesn't mean I am one this year. My own personal goals is what motivates me," Bryan said.

Along with success on the golf course, the sophomore also excels in the classroom, balancing the tough travels of a college golf career along with a challenging academic career as well.

"It is extremely hard. It is a lot of time management. I had good study habits in high school and that carried over to my college career." Bryan said.

He also chuckled saying that he doesn't really know how he does it. He also looked to former Gamecock golfer Erica Battle to help him balance both his academics and athletic success.

For being only a sophomore and having the success he's had, Bryan has

a very level head on his shoulders. Being one of the top returning players, he knows that on the course he can lead by example. Off the course, he looks to seniors Mark Anderson and Warren Thomas.

"I am seen as a leader of the golf course with my game. Mark Anderson and Warren Thomas are the vocal leaders off the course. They know what is going on. Mark is just a good guy to be around," Bryan said.

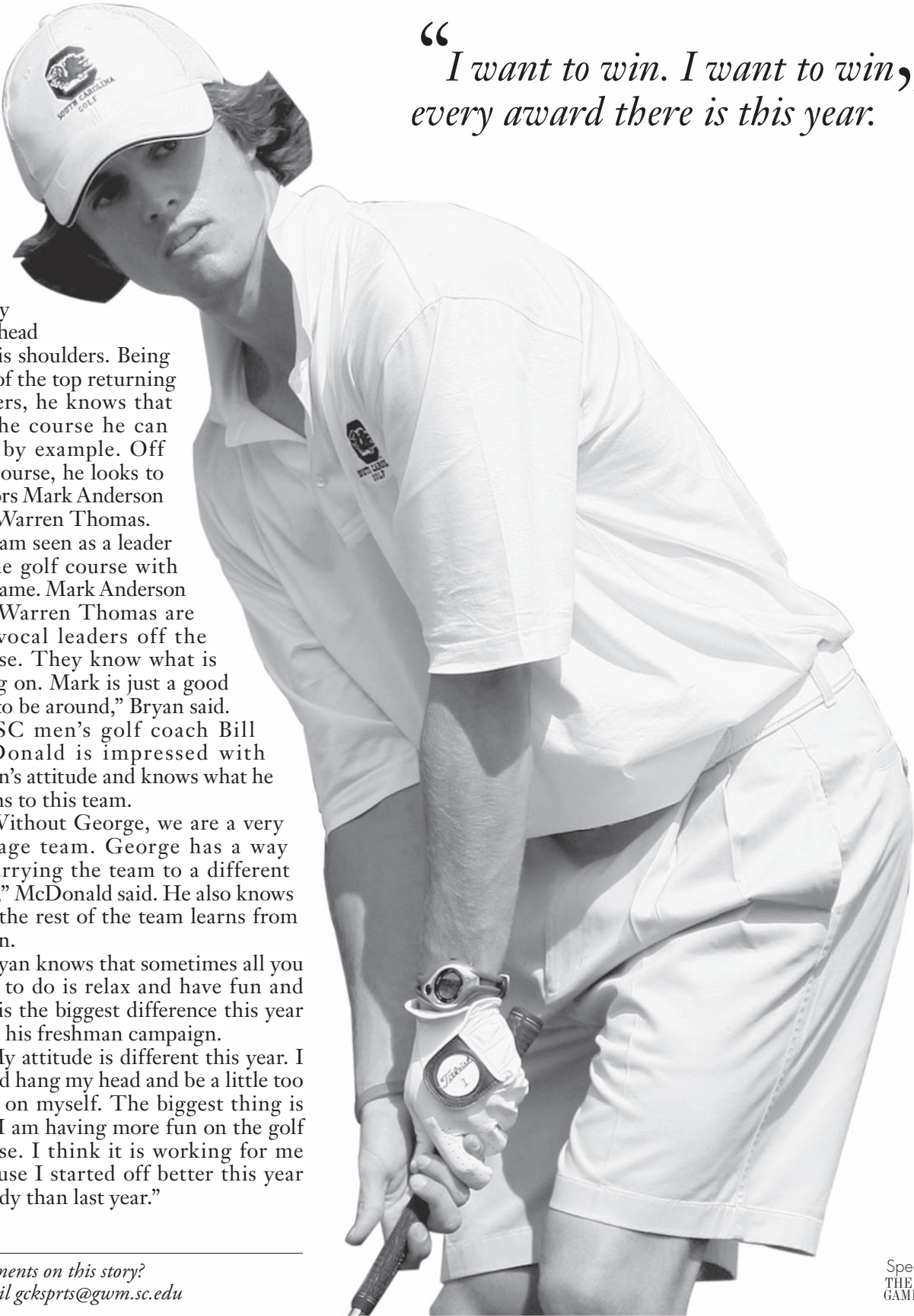
USC men's golf coach Bill McDonald is impressed with Bryan's attitude and knows what he means to this team.

"Without George, we are a very average team. George has a way of carrying the team to a different level," McDonald said. He also knows that the rest of the team learns from Bryan.

Bryan knows that sometimes all you have to do is relax and have fun and that is the biggest difference this year from his freshman campaign.

"My attitude is different this year. I would hang my head and be a little too hard on myself. The biggest thing is that I am having more fun on the golf course. I think it is working for me because I started off better this year already than last year."

Comments on this story?
E-mail gcksptrs@gwm.sc.edu

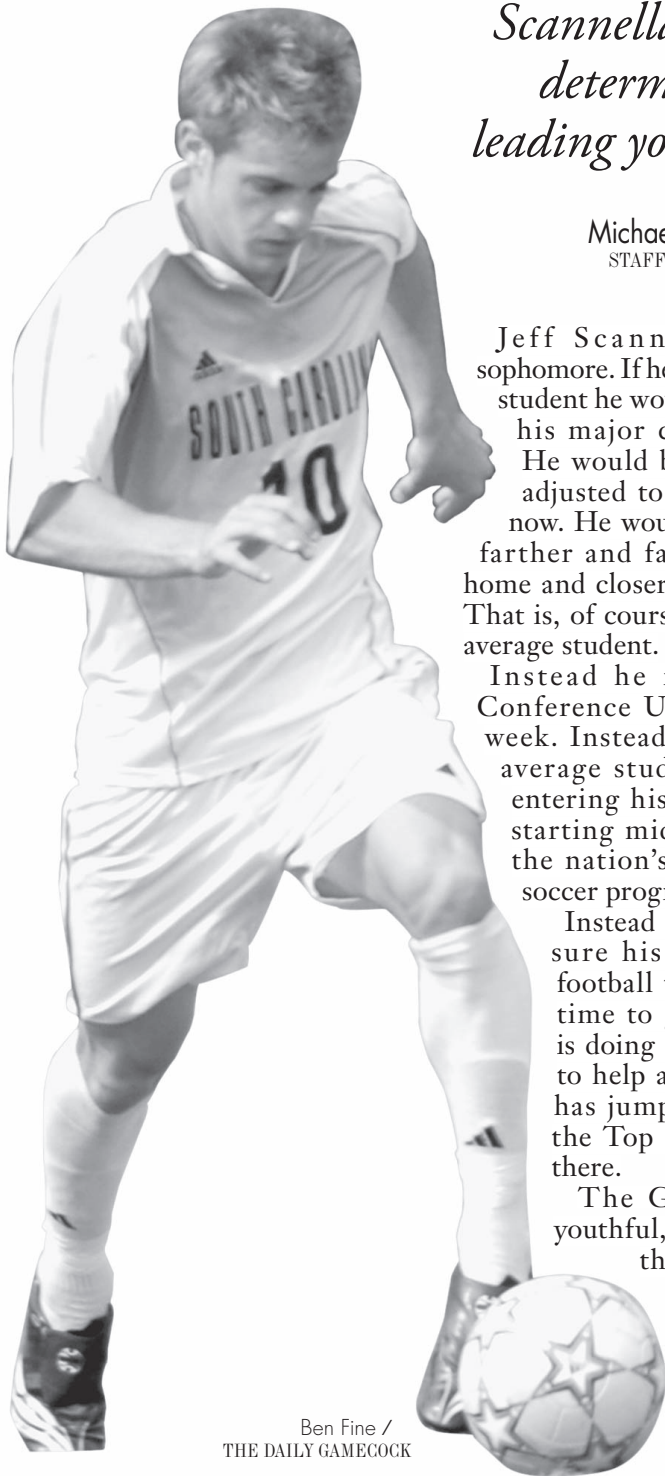


Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Soccer star setting example in 2007

Scannella's passion, determination leading young players

Michael Aguilar
STAFF WRITER



Jeff Scannella is only a sophomore. If he were your average student he would be getting into his major classes this year.

He would be becoming well adjusted to college living by now. He would be taking steps farther and farther away from home and closer to independence. That is, of course, if he were your average student.

Instead he is the reigning Conference USA player of the week. Instead of just being an average student Scannella is entering his second year as a starting midfielder in one of the nation's premier college soccer programs.

Instead of trying to make sure his intramural flag football team shows up on time to games, Scannella is doing everything he can to help a young team that has jumped in and out of the Top 25 all season stay there.

The Gamecocks are a youthful, yet talented team this year. The team fields only nine upperclassmen and many freshmen are starting for USC. However,



Ben Fine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Jeff Scannella has four goals and one assist for the Gamecocks in 2007.

if there is one player who is well prepared to assist those freshmen on and off the field it is Scannella.

He obviously knows something about what it takes to succeed in NCAA soccer as an underclassman. The sophomore is coming off a season where he was voted to the Freshman All-American team and the All-Conference USA team.

"I tell them (the freshmen) you can't get frustrated," said Scannella. "There were so many times last year that I would get down on myself or frustrated. The one piece of advice I give them is to just always keep your head up and keep motivating yourself."

Apparently some of the freshmen heeded the words of wisdom from a more experienced player. Freshmen Sam Arthur and Blake Brettschneider are respectively first and second on the team in points, followed by closely by Scannella. On the defensive side freshman goalkeeper Jimmy Maurer has excelled with four shutouts and an .823 save percentage this season.

Still, youth has hurt the team. It has seemed that the Gamecocks have been in and out of the Top 25 all season. The main reason for

such a sporadic in and out status is the quality of the opponents that Carolina has faced off against this season. USC has played four ranked teams out its twelve games. Scannella does not deem that an excuse, just a motivation.

"From the beginning of the year we knew that it was going to be difficult," said Scannella. "Going to University of Connecticut and taking our lumps there was very beneficial, to see what it is really like to be a top five, top fifteen team. The top 25 is just a ranking but obviously to stay there during the week training has to be sharp because that is what we're basing our performance in the games on."

Scannella was honored at the end of last season and in the last few weeks of this season by many different media outlets and soccer organizations for his individual play. However, the Gamecocks did not make it to the NCAA tournament, which, in Scannella's mind, more or less defeats the purpose of being honored individually.

"If the team does well, it's obviously a little bit easier to get recognized," said Scannella.

COX ● Continued from 8

Carolina would play South Florida in the National Championship. If you even remotely saw that as a possibility before the season, pat yourself on the back.

People say the upsets are a credit to the parity in college football. I say it's a hex. Did anyone see that magic trick Lou Holtz did on College Football Live a few weeks ago? He's my bet

for the magician causing all this havoc. That is the only way anyone could explain his ludicrous picks.

All kidding aside, the credit has to go to the coaches and players of these underdogs. They found ways to win despite the odds being stacked against them. They all seem to have taken heed from pro-wrestler Ric Flair's advice when he said, "To be the man, you gotta beat the man."

And beat the man is exactly what these teams have done. There has never been a more exciting and dramatic season of football in recent memory, and it looks to undoubtedly continue in the weeks to come.

But for my predictions' sake, I hope it stops sooner rather than later.

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

SOCCER ● Continued from 8

"That's why I feel like I've been fortunate enough to get some recognition in the last few weeks, because the team has done well. Being an All-American would be nice and that's something I'm shooting for, but to make the NCAA tournament and to go deep into the tournament is more of a goal for me, just because last year I had such a terrible taste in my mouth after we didn't make the tournament."

Scannella has a team-first mentality that is rare among athletes with a high level of

talent. His focus is to get Carolina to the big game and to win a national title. However, whether or not he's focused on it, there's a good chance that a player like Scannella will see some accolades along the way.

"All the awards are nice," said Scannella. "I would rather still be playing in November and December rather than sitting here watching the game on TV. At the end of the day if the team does well that's all that really matters."

If Scannella was just an average student then he wouldn't be worried about

winning the crucial home games that a team needs to win to be competitive. If Scannella were just an average soccer player then he wouldn't be worried about All-Americans and national championships.

Instead he leaves the room of our interview, not to go on fall break like the rest of his peers, but to practice and prepare for the next opponent, the next challenge and the next opportunity to prove that he is anything but average.

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

Gamecock Challenge

football picks and predictions

Every week, our staff will predict 10 college games. If you think you know your stuff, submit your picks by Thursday to gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu.

This week's games:

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